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## DHHS Staff Changes Announced

*Carson City, NV* – The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) announce staff changes to several leadership positions effective immediately. Accepting the position of DHHS Deputy Director for Programs is Dena Schmidt who most recently served as the Medicaid Specialist for the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) and formerly served as the Resource Development Chief for the Division of Aging and Disability Services. As Deputy Director, Dena will manage the Director's Office Programs to include the Grants Management Unit, IDEA Part C Office, Tribal Liaison Office, Office of Consumer Health Assistance, Office of Minority Health, and 211. In addition, she will serve as a liaison for the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Dena has extensive experience in research, policy development and system design relating to public assistance programs in addition to 12 years' specific experience with the Nevada Medicaid Program. Dena holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Nevada, Reno

Previous DHHS Deputy Director, Steve Fisher, has accepted the position of DWSS Administrator and will retain his role as lead for the 2015 Supported State Based Marketplace (SSBM) Affordable Care Act (ACA) open enrollment project coordinating the activities between

Deloitte Consulting and the State. In addition, Steve will oversee Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly known as the Food Stamp Program), Child Support Enforcement Program, Child Care Assistance Program, Employment and Training Programs for TANF and SNAP recipients, Energy Assistance Program, and eligibility for Nevada's Medicaid Program.

Steve, who recently served as interim Executive Director for the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange, was DWSS Deputy Administrator of Programs and Field Operations for 2 years. Steve has strong program and health care knowledge and received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Nevada, Reno.

"I admire and respect Dena's and Steve's leadership and organizational skills and am extremely pleased they agreed to accept these positions to lead from the helm of this great organization," said Romaine Gilliland, DHHS Director. "Their commitment to remove barriers and open doorways is truly remarkable as we work together to help our clients reach their highest level of self-sufficiency."

The previous DWSS Administrator, Michael McMahon, has accepted another position. "I appreciate Mike's dedication as Welfare Administrator during an extremely demanding time and wish Mike all the best in his new endeavors," Gilliland said.

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